



Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society Inc

P.O Box 989, Lane Cove NSW 1595

ABN 50 518 833 556

The General Manager,
Lane Cove Council.

15th March 2017

SU6637, Traffic Changes to Lane Cove Village.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the options listed in these changes. In reviewing the documents we have found several ambiguities or mistakes which we have brought to the attention of staff but we list them below for information.

- On a site inspection we cannot see five trees that need to be removed at the intersection of Burns Bay Rd, Tambourine Bay Rd and Sutherland St. There is one in the middle of the roundabout.
- Option 5b shows 120m² of green space removed for 1.6m widening. Option 5c shows 125m² for 3.9m widening. One of these figures is incorrect
- Option 6b states that 12 trees will be removed on the north side but a box on the drawing shows no trees to be removed. Which is correct?

These mistakes cause confusion for people trying to assess the various options.

General comment.

In an ideal situation the LCB&CS would say that **NO TREES** should be removed. However, we do understand that Council has an need to maintain a certain level of street parking to satisfy local residents as well as some long term visitor parking such as workers in the Village.

We also see the need to reduce the through traffic now traversing the Village via Burns Bay Road, Rosenthal Ave, and Birdwood Ave to the main intersection of Epping Road.

These principles will guide our comments on the various options.

Option 1

We agree with this option to provide traffic lights at this intersection. The lights must be capable of giving pedestrians advance notice with the Walk light before cars are given the green light (similar to the Austin St/Longueville Road lights.)

Option 2 Sutherland Street

We agree with option 2a with the request that the turning circle be reduced to a maximum of 15 – 16m diameter and be moved further east to retain more trees, including the large brush box at the corner of Sutherland and Cocks lane. This dimension allows most cars to turn in a single movement but would require the occasional large truck to have to use a three point turn. It also allows for a footpath on both sides of the street clear of vehicles. We question the need for two driveways to the resident as they are contiguous within the site. This may require a minor reconfiguration within the site.

This may require the moving of a power pole but this is a preferred option to the removal of trees.

Option 3 Graham Street.

If option 2a is adopted for Sutherland Street we can see no need to make any changes to Graham Street as the increased traffic from Sutherland St will be minimal. This can easily be accommodated by the use of driveways for passing traffic.

If option 2b for Sutherland St is adopted then we suggest that Graham Street be widened on the southern side, except for about 10m near the intersection with Sutherland where there is a very large gum tree. This should retain about 18 cars spaces and still allow 6m traffic lanes.

Option 4 Coxs Lane – Finlayson to Birdwood.

We agree with option 4b. We know that the developments on the eastern side have been required to dedicate the 3m for this purpose. This retains the existing car numbers and allows for trees to be planted in front of the units or as a separation of car spaces.

Coxs Lane – Finlayson to Sutherland

We agree with option 5b with the PROVISIO that **NO TREES** be removed other than the new small tree at the northern end and one on the eastern side near Sutherland St required for the straightening of that corner. This straightening also allows for the retention of the brush box at the south western corner to Sutherland St. The remaining trees on the western side are 3.0m from the existing kerb so that a widening of 1.6m will still leave these trees no closer to the kerb than many others in the municipality, even along major roads (Longueville Rd in particular)

There is no need for a footpath on this side of the street. The green area is flat and any footpath would just reduce the use and visual amenity of the area.

This option retains the 13 existing cars spaces and the trees on the western side.

Option 6 Finlayson Street.

Again ideally we would like to see no trees removed in this street, particularly the 6 large and two new, gum trees on the northern side. This is a fundamental position that the LCB&CS takes in this street. The low spreading palms may need to eventually be replaced by larger gums.

Parking could be removed from the street during the construction period of the Rosenthal development and reviewed after this was open and there were 500 more car spaces in Lane Cove. Evening parking here could be unrestricted replacing the evening parking now in Finlayson Street.

If Council is determined to provide some parking in this street we would suggest a new option of widening the street 0.8 m on the **SOUTHERN** side. This would mean the removal of 3 gum trees, 2 melaleucas and one leptospermum. All of these trees have been impacted by the overhead wires either by pruning or leaning away from the wires. The two new gums at the western end would not have to be removed. This amount of widening should have little impact on the slope of the existing verge. Access to the houses will be slightly impacted but still not making them impossible to use.

This would retain 20 car spaces with the evening spaces being provided in the new Rosenthal carpark.

The overhead wires could eventually be undergrounded allowing for new planting which is not subject to the requirements of overhead wires.

Conclusion

Lane Cove has an enviable reputation as a green suburb, even within our Village, and every effort should be made to retain this reputation. Any trees that have to be removed must be replaced with native trees that will achieve a reasonable height to provide the canopy vegetation for wildlife corridors, help stop heat islands forming as well as for the visual amenity of residents and visitors.

Doug Stuart for the Committee,
Lane Cove Bushland and Conservation Society Inc